

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

There was a meeting of the Indian River County (IRC) Economic Development Council (EDC) on Tuesday, May 20, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. in Conference Room B1-501 of the County Administration Building B, 1800 27<sup>th</sup> Street, Vero Beach, Florida. You may hear an audio of the meeting and review the agenda and minutes on the IRC website - [www.ircgov.com/Boards/EDC/2008](http://www.ircgov.com/Boards/EDC/2008). Please note listed at the end of each agenda item refers to time on the recorded minutes.

Present were EDC members: Chairman Scott Carson, Real Estate Appointee; William Penney, Banking Appointee; Vice Chairman Peter Robinson, Developer Appointee (arrived at 3:12 p.m.); Deborah Mayfield, Board of County Commissioners (BCC) Appointee; Doug Bournique, Local Industry Appointee (arrived at 3:10 p.m.); Talmage Rogers, Jr., Citrus Industry Appointee; Penny Chandler, Indian River Chamber of Commerce (IRCOC); Mayor Sara Savage, City of Fellsmere Appointee; Mayor Thomas Cadden, Town of Indian River Shores Appointee; Mayor Andrea Coy, City of Sebastian Appointee; James Kretsch and Deborah Segal, Member-at-Large Appointees.

Absent were EDC members: Councilmember Debra Fromang, City of Vero Beach Appointee; Jan Pagano, Civic Organization Appointee; Ray Coniglio, Sebastian River Area Chamber of Commerce Appointee; Ann Reuter, School Board Appointee; Deb Branwell, Town of Orchid Appointee; Linda Schlitt-Gonzalez, Member-at-Large Appointee; Gwenda Thompson, Workforce Development Board Appointee; and Victor Hart, Sr., Gifford Community Appointee.

Also present were IRC Staff: Sandra Bowden, BCC Chairman; Peter O'Bryan, Non-voting Commissioner Liaison; Sasan Rohani, Long Range Planning Chief; Bill Schutt, Senior Economic Development Planner; and Terri Collins-Lister, Commissioner Assistant, District 4. Others present: Helene Caseltine, Alternate, IRCOC Appointee; Candace Walker, Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County; Charlie Wilson, Media Arts Group and Scott Oberlink, Pointe West.

### **Call to Order** (00:00:03)

EDC Chairman Scott Carson called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. At the time, no quorum was present.

**Presentation on Growth of the Bio Tech Industry in Southern California and its implications to the Treasure Coast – Candace Walker, V.P. of the Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County** (00:01:16)

Ms. Candace Walker, V.P. of the Economic Development Council of St. Lucie County, gave a presentation on Growth of the Bio Tech Industry in Southern California and its implications to the Treasure Coast, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office.

Mr. Bournique arrived at 3:10 p.m.

Mr. Robinson arrived at 3:12 p.m.

Mr. Penney left at 3:35 p.m.

A lengthy discussion ensued on education and business development. Ms. Caseltine told the Committee, Dr. Dale Brill, Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Trade, Tourism & Economic Development has offered to work with Florida's Research Coast region to develop a pilot program in Florida on Economic Gardening. She concluded on Friday, June 13, 2008 at Tradition Town Hall in Port St. Lucie, Dr. Dale Brill would be presenting an insight on the impact and benefits of Economic Gardening, a successful program first initiated in Littleton, Colorado, to encourage entrepreneurship within our region.

Commissioner O'Bryan felt the committee needed a strategic plan and a vision and once the plan was in place, inform the public through a charrette or public meeting. He mentioned a group of retired corporate executives living in IRC had volunteered to objectively look at IRC's strengths and weaknesses and use their expertise to help develop a strategic plan for economic development.

**Approval of EDC Minutes of the April 15, 2008** (01:32:35)

**ON MOTION BY Mayor Savage, SECONDED BY Mr. Bournique, the members voted unanimously (11-0) to approve the April 15, 2008 minutes as presented.**

**Presentation on the Chamber's New Economic Development Promotional Piece – Helene Caseltine, Economic Development Director, IRCOC**  
(01:33:26)

Ms. Helene Caseltine, Economic Development Director, IRCOC, presented the committee with a preview of the IRCOC new economic development

promotional piece which was contained on a flash drive with the IRCOC's Economic Development logo.

She indicated 310 of the 500 flash drives ordered would be mailed to manufacturers located in North Carolina and Massachusetts who make medical and research laboratory products. It was also suggested mailing the economic development promotional piece to the volunteer group of retired corporate executives for their input. A discussion followed on recommended changes. Ms. Caseltine told the committee the economic development piece was a work in progress and would be updated twice a year.

Mayor Coy left at 4:50 p.m.

### **Review of the Draft Evaluation and Appraisal Report Economic Development Element – Bill Schutt, IRC Senior Planner**

Due to time constraints, the item was tabled to the June 17, 2008 EDC Meeting.

### **Committee Member Matters** (02:10:54)

Chairman Carson mentioned several individuals from the construction industry had attended the last two Chamber's Economic Development Division meetings to talk about the permitting process and the main cause for the delay in obtaining permits.

Ms. Segal left at 5:15 p.m.

A discussion ensued on the permitting process.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.